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WEATHER REPORT.

Western Oregon—Occasional rain, part snow or sleet.
Western Washington—Occasional rain.

A STATEMENT OF FACT.

The Morning Astorian desires to place itself squarely or record in a matter of importance to very many people, including its management, and upon which it desires no sort of ambiguity to exist.

This paper has made a clean, square fight for a closed town ever since last summer; it has really made two fights, winning in one and losing in the other.

In the matter of the recent election the people of the city, as was their high prerogative, decided against the policy of this paper upon this particular issue.

Important business at the White House will prevent Mr. Longworth from taking a very active part in the congressional proceedings this winter.

It is doubtful if the czar can muster force enough to warrant him in announcing that order reigns in Warsaw or any other part of the empire.

Socially and spectacularly, the White House wedding announced for next spring will find the void occasioned by the absence of a world's fair in 1906.

The magnetic pole has been reached more than once. As the terrestrial pole is 1200 miles farther north, it is not likely to be investigated for some time.

Senator Tillman has conceived a sudden and violent antipathy to the Panama canal, and is trying to fill the great waterway from the vials of his wrath.

On her Texas tour Mme. Sarah Bernhardt is playing Camille in a tent. The open air of Texas will, it is thought, be good for poor Camille's consumption.

Germany has apologized to Brazil. Castro has backed down before France and the Sultan of Turkey has graciously agreed to reform. Weather indications are fair.

Though Ohio is not in the White House, it has managed to get next. Vice-President Fairbanks was born in Ohio, and so was the President's prospective son-in-law.

A wireless telegraph operator in Porto Rico a few days ago caught a message passing between New York and Boston. Even now the marvels of electricity appear to be in the first chapter.

A Canadian syndicate proposes to build a canal and ship railway that will flank Lakes Erie and St. Clare and part of Huron. In ventures of this kind it is well to know when the Canadians will insist on annexation.

New Mexico reports a remarkable turquoise discovery. Prospectors will keep on until they find a great American diamond field, and then the big trust in South Africa will have to stand competition in the business.

the sporting world shall wait for its payment and political compensation until after Clatsop county shall have gone Democratic in June has not enough savor of the "sure-thing" about it to satisfy the sporting creditors of the dominant party.

THE PRIMARIES FIRST.

This paper will take up no man's candidacy in the coming State campaign, from governor to constable, until after the April primaries shall have declared the first will of the people in this relation. After the returns are in from the primaries, this paper will champion the Republican nominees in good faith and support them, to the last man named, no matter who he, or they, shall be.

EDITORIAL SALAD.

If the big packers are sent to jail for rebating they will expect, of course, to have their sentences commuted.

The czar is another instance of a high salaried man to whom the year 1905 has brought a lot of trouble.

Mr. Hearst's attorneys will appeal to the New York legislature to settle the controversy between the mayor-elect and the mayor elected.

Governor Jeff Davis will be delighted if the Republican leaders of Arkansas make a wrangle over post officers the Republican issue in the state.

An American girl married a foreign title by granting an allowance of \$40 a week. Even now the value of the article has not struck bottom.

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Under the statehood measure pro-

posed by the Republican caucus Arizona will absorb New Mexico, but the new state will not be entirely harmonious. Some time must elapse before sagebrush and cactus can fraternize.

A Buffalo paper says the farmers of that county will not maintain good country roads even after the city pays for them. People as close-fisted and short-sighted as that are doomed to a mud-hole sort of existence all their lives.

We imported thirty-seven million dollars' worth of diamonds and other precious stones at New York alone this year. There is a suspicion that the farmers of the country are beginning to number diamonds among the necessities of life.

Another New York editor has been arrested on a charge of blackmailing a rich man. An editor who works to accumulate lacks the true spirit of the profession and deserves to suffer both the pangs of poverty and the pains of the penitentiary.

The celebration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of Benjamin Franklin comes in February, but he was such a many sided and original man that he can be run as a serial, and then not exhausted in matters of past and present interest.

Another tradition has been swept away. There was no such person as Hendrik Hudson. It has been found by examining official documents that the explorer was Henry Hudson, an Englishman, and that he needed an interpreter in conferring with the Hollanders.

There is plenty of food for thought in the statement that a fad for hunting birds' nests in the vicinity of Lawrence, Kan., deprived that section of an apple crop for six years. Birds are nature's chief balance wheel in keeping down insect pests. Yet many country folks are dissatisfied with a game law unless it is a practical nullity.

In the countries that carry on the most complete and cheapest parcels post system the following annual profits are reported by their postal departments: Germany, \$15,120,700; Great Britain, \$22,523,000; France, \$14,700,000. In the United States last year the postal deficit exceeded \$14,000,000. Uncle Sam, for a change, should try a parcels post at reasonable rates.

EFFECT OF GEER'S CANDIDACY ON OTHER MEN OF MARION.

New Element Projected Into Campaign Does Not Affect Wrightman.

There is every evidence that the Portland bosses are making some of the Marion county aspirants dance a political feather dance.

They are encouraging four gentlemen, and perhaps more, to become candidates for state offices and in the meantime promise the offices to other sections of the State.

And the Marion county candidates sing in chorus: "Like a feather I'll float in my own little boat, in my gut-ter canoe."

At best no more than one Marion county canoe can weather the storm of primary campaign, with all the political centrifugal forces at work.

Marion county ought to have one place on the state ticket.

It is very plain that Governor Geer's candidacy has thrown a new element of chance into the situation, and weakens the chances of some of our men.

Frank T. Wrightman, candidate for

Secretary of State will benefit by this situation

His following is not only a positive Republican element, but he has taken a strong stand for tax revision in the right direction.

Mr. Wrightman bases his candidacy on the very tangible proposition that state revenues should be derived from intangible sources.

This means something to the taxpayer. As revenue officer of the state he will seek to raise all state taxes without a direct tax on the farms and homes of the people.—Salem Journal.

SERIOUS BLUNDER.

The statement of the Portland Afro-American paper that Attorney-General A. M. Crawford is not a candidate for re-election is without foundation in fact. Mr. Crawford has given good satisfaction and the indications are he will be given another term without opposition from the Republicans.

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